

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUENOS 02463 131950Z

64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

EUR-12 /075 W

----- 052075

R 131842Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5247

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 2463

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, AR, BR

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN NAVAL MIN VISITS ARGENTINA

REF: BUENOS AIRES 0660

1. BRAZILIAN NAVAL MIN, ADMIRAL GERALDO AZEVEDO HENNING, DEPARTED BUENOS AIRES APRIL 9 AFTER FIVE-DAY VISIT AS THE GUEST OF ARGENTINE NAVY CINC ADMIRAL EDUARDO MASSERA. OFFICIALLY, THE VISIT WAS DESCRIBED AS PROTOCOLARY WITH THE PURPOSE OF STRENGTHENING THE TIES BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS. OUR NAVATT WAS TOLD BY ARGENTINES THAT HENNING'S MAJOR OBJECTIVE WAS TO SIGNAL APPROVAL OF BRAZILIAN ARMED FORCES FOR NEW ARGENTINE JUNTA. BRAZILIAN EMBASSY HERE, HOWEVER, TELLS US THEY WERE PRESSURED BY ARGENTINES FOR HENNING'S TO MAKE TRIP.

2. AN EDITORIAL IN THE APRIL 8 EDITION OF LA NACION, HOWEVER, SUGGESTED THAT THE TWO NAVIES ARE CONCERNED OVER GROWING CUBAN AND SOVIET INFLUENCE IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC FLOWING FROM SUCCESSES IN ANGOLA. IMPLYING THAT ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL CANNOT COUNT ON THE US OR THE WEST, THE EDITORIAL STATED: "SO FAR THE WEST HAS NOT DEVELOPED NAVAL STRENGTH IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC CAPABLE OF COUNTERING THIS THREAT. NATO DOES NOT INCLUDE THE SOUTH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUENOS 02463 131950Z

ATLANTIC IN ITS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. ONLY THREE

COUNTRIES, ALIGNED BY TRADITION AND CULTURE WITH THE WEST, HAVE THE APPROPRIATE GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION TO PLAY A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN ITS CONTROL AND PROTECTION: ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND SOUTH AFRICA THIS IS THE CONTEXT WITHIN WHICH ADMIRAL HENNING'S VISIT TAKEN PLACE."

3. A FOLLOW ON TO THE LA NACION PIECE WAS SEEN IN AN EDITORIAL IN CLARIN ON APRIL 9 WHICH EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER SOVIET/CUBAN PRESENCE IN ANGOLA AND OVER POSSIBILITY THAT THEY WOULD INTERVENE AGAINST RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA, THUS TURNING SOUTH ATLANTIC INTO SOMETHING OF A COCKPIT OF GLOBAL CONFLICT.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES IDEAS IN TWO EDITORIALS WERE FED TO NEWSPAPERS BY ARGENTINE NAVY. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT ARGENTINE ARMED FORCES HAVE SEEN DISTURBING IMPLICATIONS IN SUCCESSFUL SOVIET/CUBAN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA (SEE REFTEL). ARGENTINES MAY INDEED HAVE SEEN BRAZILIAN ADMIRAL'S VISIT AS OPPORTUNITY TO COORDINATE VIEWS ON SITUATION IN SOUTH ATLANTIC BASIN. WE WOULD DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT VIEWS ARE AS MUCH IN CONCERT AS SUGGESTED BY ARGENTINES. BRAZIL, FOR EXAMPLE, WAS ONE OF THE FIRST STATES TO RECOGNIZE MPLA WHILE ARGENTINA STILL HAS NOT DONE SO. FURTHER, WE WOULD DOUBT THAT BRAZILIANS WOULD BE AS PRONE TO COZY UP TO SOUTH AFRICANS AS ARGENTINES SEEM TO BE.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY VIEWS AMEMBASSY BRASILIA HAS ON ABOVE.
HILL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVAL FORCES, COLLECTIVE SECURITY, PFOR, VISITS, MILITARY POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BUENOS02463
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760140-0527
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760469/aaaacgin.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BUENOS AIRES 0660, 76 BUENOS AIRES 660
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <14 OCT 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRAZILIAN NAVAL MIN VISITS ARGENTINA
TAGS: MPOL, PFOR, AR, BR, (HENNING, GERALDO AZEVEDO)
To: SECSTATE WASHDC BRASILIA PRETORIA CAPE TOWN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006